



December 2018 newsletter

Meetings at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of every month at the Loves Park VFW

Merry Christmas! Celebrate with us

Tuesday's meeting will be filled with Christmas cheer as we swap lures

By **Dick Cholke**
Flatlanders president

Christmas is near! I am sitting in front of the fire thinking of the past season – wait it is not December 31 yet! Kinkaid and Cave Run are still ice free.

That sounds like a great get away before the end of the year. It is probably not going to happen, just like the kicker motor on my Christmas list. But we still had a nice season with many personal bests and some real good times on the outings.

Next year looks promising and I am ready to get back to pulling the boat to some new lake. We have a number of items to discuss, starting off with the next meeting.

The December meeting will feature our last fish stories of the year, the annual gift swap, and food. Make sure to bring a (or up to three maximum) new wrapped muskie fishing related items worth at least \$15 to the meeting to be passed around the room and a good round of grab from your neighbor.

You may need to get your order into Rollie and Helen's Musky Shop today to receive your item before the meeting. In addition, bring a dish to pass or snack for the evening meal. If you have a 2018 traveling trophy please bring it to the meeting to get ready for the banquet.

We need to get the new nameplates made, installed, and polished before the banquet.



Jan. 19 will get the Flatlanders heading into the Chicago Muskie Expo at Pheasant Run Resort. As in years past we will meet at Cracker Barrel for breakfast at 7:30 AM. Remember if you did not get your deposit in for Lake of the Woods trip July 13-20 yet, this is one of the last opportunities to lock in your spot. You can also mail to the deposit to Steve Ruhmann before the end of January. This is the time to get your plans made for Canada. We will also have a signup sheet for the Chapter Challenge August 17-24 at the December meeting. A number of folks have expressed interest and team one may be set early. Let's take two teams up this year! These are six person teams. If we can get the teams set and deposits in, we could possible get the larger cabins reserved early. Note, there are rumors of a Region Four Chapter Challenge this spring at Lake Kinkaid. A quick internet search

did not yield any further information. We will keep you posted.

At the December meeting we will have a signup/contact list if you are interested in fishing the Milwaukee Harbor this winter.

If the harbor does not freeze up, the launches are open, and the weather warms up, it is nice to get out and get rid of some cabin fever. Bob and I can line you up with the patterns, baits, and locations to get in on some nice brown and lake trout.

Note, you do need a larger boat and good life jacket this time of year.

I will be putting together the "2018 Flatlanders Year in Review" starting in December. Photos of everyone make for a better presentation. Please send those photos to cholke@mchsi.com. We caught some nice fish – let's show them off. If you have any good shots of your partner doing something crazy, include those photos. We all need a little humor. This presentation will be shown at the February meeting. The EC committee is already working on our annual awards banquet March 23 at Thunder Bay. Please consider making a donation for the raffles. Remember it does not have to be a fishing related item, just something that our members would like to take home after the banquet. This is basically our only fund raiser for the year. Next year we would like to bring in speakers and offer some new activities.

Our elections in November kept our same officers as last year. Remember we encourage and appreciate any of your time to help keep our chapter strong.

The following is the 2019 schedule for the Flatlander's:

Jan. 19: Chicago Muskie Expo

Feb. 18: Flatlanders General Meeting – presentation of the "Flatlander's 2018 Season Review"

March 23: Flatlanders Annual Banquet

April 16: Flatlanders General Meeting

April 27: Flatlanders Outing at Lake Storey and Lake McMaster

May 21: Flatlanders General Meeting

May 18: Flatlanders Outing at Lake Evergreen
June 18: Flatlanders General Meeting - Prep for the Lake of the Woods Outing

July 13-20: Outing at Lake of the Woods

Aug. 17-24: Flatlanders Outing at the MI Chapter Challenge

Sept. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting

Sept. 27-29: Flatlanders Outing at the Bay of Green Bay

Oct. 15: Flatlanders General Meeting

Oct. 18-20: Lake Alice

Nov. 19: Flatlanders General Meeting – Elections

Dec. 17: Flatlanders General Meeting – Christmas Party and Lure Swap.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with 50'ers on the board for all the Flatlanders.

Oh Remember! Your Lake of the Woods deposits are due!

Get on the water and on the board

2019 Lake of the Woods

By Steve Ruhmann

Release chairman

It is that time of year again when we collect the deposits for our 17th annual Lake of the Woods Outing. This year's trip is from July 13–20. As with last year the total lodging cost will be \$400 which includes raffle items like the previous years. The deposit for the trip is \$100 and is due to myself by 1/31/19. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are planning on going. We need to let Bay Store Camp know a total head count so we can line up the cabins. This is important to ensure we do the best to accommodate everyone's preferences. 2018 was an exciting year, let's make 2019 even better!

Please send deposits to:

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